



Town of Arlington
Department of Health and Human Services
Office of the Board of Health
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**Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 11, 2018
BOH Conference Room – Mural Room
Arlington Senior Center
5:30pm**

Board Members in Attendance: Dr. Marie Walsh Condon, Mr. Kenneth Kohlberg, Dr. Kevin Fallon

Staff in Attendance: Natasha Waden, Director of Public Health; Kylee Sullivan, Health Compliance Officer; Padraig Martin, Lead Health Compliance Officer; Jessica Kerr, Public Health Nurse

Others in Attendance: James Quinn, Ismini Vocas (Ink Jam Studio); Joanna Cardarelli, Paul Colussi, Doug Kahn, Ashot Papoyan (Tetragenetics); Beth Graham (Safety Partners); Talia Hahn

Recording Secretary: Laura Munsey, Health & Human Services Administrative Assistant

Meeting called to order by Dr. Marie Walsh Condon at 5:33 pm.

Dr. Walsh Condon informed members of the Board and Attendees that she would grant a request to take Public Health Nurse Updates (agenda item XII) and Hearing: Ink Jam Studio (agenda item III) out of order, and place prior to the TetraGenetics Hearing.

January 31, 2018 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Kenneth Kohlberg, which was seconded by Dr. Kevin Fallon to accept the January 31, 2018 meeting minutes as submitted.

Vote: 3-0 in favor of the motion (Unanimous)

Public Health Nurse Updates

Jessica Kerr, Public Health Nurse, reported she is following a couple cases of Pertussis in town, and has been working with the Schools regarding guidelines for notifications, etc. She further reported last week was Public Health Week and she attended multiple seminars regarding flu and health equity. Ms. Kerr reported the Health Department will be hosting an MRC Recruitment Program in May.

Hearing: Ink Jam- Park Ave (Variance Request for Apprenticeship)

Inspector Kylee Sullivan reported Ink Jam Studio has applied for a variance for a Body Art Apprentice permit for Ms. Ismini Vocas. She reported all documentation to support this request has been submitted to the Health Department, with the exception of a transcript from her school indicating the successful completion of an anatomy and physiology course from an accredited program. Inspector Sullivan reported that an acceptable course has been identified in Quincy, and Ms. Vocas will have until the end of the 2018 Calendar Year to provide documentation to the Board. Both Mr. James Quinn of Ink Jam Studio and Ms. Ismini Vocas were available to answer any questions of the Board.

A motion was made by Mr. Kenneth Kohlberg, which was seconded by Dr. Kevin Fallon to grant a variance to Ink Jam Studio on behalf of Ms. Ismini Vocas to be permitted as a Body Art Apprentice, conditional upon proof to the Health Department of completed coursework prior to December 31, 2018.

Vote: 3-0 in favor of the motion (Unanimous)

Hearing: TetraGenetics- 91 Mystic Street (Request to operate at BSL-2)

Inspector Pdraig Martin informed the Board that TetraGenetics, Inc. is a permitted biotechnology company that has been operating in Arlington since 2015. They currently operate as a Biosafety Level 1 (BSL-1) laboratory, and are requesting to add a Biosafety Level 2 (BSL-2) area to their existing facility.

Inspector Martin reported he toured the facility earlier in the week, and found the laboratory design, space, security, safety manual and employee training were adequate. He reported the only area of concern was the proposed use of a hand-sanitizer dispenser in lieu of a handwashing sink, which is a requirement of the BMBL guidelines.

Doug Kahn, CEO of TetraGenetics addressed the Board and introduced his staff, and Advisor from Safety Partners, Inc. He gave a detailed overview of the company, and reported TetraGenetics is a drug discovery company, whose efforts focus on human proteins (ion channels) that are implicated in many human diseases including Autoimmune Disease, Cancer, and Pain. He reported they are working on a pre-clinical drug for the cure of Type 1 Diabetes.

Dr. Paul Colussi, Vice President of Research, presented a power-point presentation related to TetraGenetics research activities, and recombinant technology. He reviewed the BSL-1 process, and outlined their reason and desire to establish a BSL-2 room within their laboratory. He reported establishing a BSL-2 area within their lab would expedite its drug discovery process by establishing more capabilities in-house, rather than outsourcing. A plan of the proposed BSL-2 lab space was provided to the Board for their review.

Ms. Beth Graham of Safety Partners, Inc. addressed the Board and provided information regarding the differences between operating a BSL-1 and BSL-2 area and TetraGenetics Lab Design Considerations. Ms. Graham described the rDNA Permit Considerations, as well as the general safety considerations, and the plan to implement changes, and train/educate staff.

A motion was made by Dr. Kevin Fallon which was seconded by Mr. Kenneth Kohlberg to grant TetraGenetics, Inc. a permit to operate a BSL-2 Laboratory at 91 Mystic Street , Arlington, MA, conditional upon full compliance to meet the NIH and BMBL Guidelines including the installation of handwashing sink within the BSL-2 area.

Vote: 3-0 in favor of the motion (Unanimous)

Hearing: Regulations Restricting the Sale of Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Products

Inspector Kylee Sullivan presented the Board with the updated Regulations Restricting the Sale of Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Products to the Board.

A Motion was made by Mr. Kenneth Kohlberg, which was seconded by Dr. Kevin Fallon, to accept the April 11, 2018 amendment to the Regulations Restricting the Sale of Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Products.

Board Members: Dr. Marie Walsh Condon, Mr. Kenneth Kohlberg, and Dr. Kevin Fallon signed the amended regulations (4-11-18).

Discussion: Rock Removal Regulations

Director Waden addressed the Board and requested support from the Board of Health to develop Rock Removal Regulations. This request is the result of ongoing complaints precipitated by construction projects over the last few years. Residents have expressed concern about the generation of dust, debris, flying particles, and noise levels at construction sites that require rock removal. Director Waden informed the Board that Town Manager Adam Chapdelaine is in support of creating these regulations. Director Waden believes such regulations would be beneficial and the Health Department could work with contractors to improve best practices before complaints arise.

The Board unanimously supported the request to develop Rock Removal Regulations in Arlington.

Discussion: Draft Dumpster Regulations

Inspector Sullivan presented the Board with an updated draft for Arlington's Wastehauler and Dumpster Regulations and for the Removal and Transportation of Solid Waste or Recyclables. These draft regulations were developed after research and review of surrounding municipalities' regulations including: Belmont, Lexington, Melford, Cambridge, and Somerville. Dr. Marie Walsh Condon made 2 suggested word changes in Section 8, and Director Waden informed that Board that the draft will be reviewed by Ms. Charlotte Milan, DPW Recycling Coordinator, prior to a Public Hearing.

Discussion: Draft Regulation to Ensure the Sanitary and Safe Operation of Marijuana Establishments and the Sale of Marijuana

Director Waden provided a brief update to the Board and informed them the Cannabis Control Commission has promulgated regulations in March for adult use of marijuana. She informed the Board that the Health Department has received inquiries from parties interested in opening a marijuana establishment in Town.

Currently the Town has a moratorium in place which will expire on June 30th 2018, and the Board must consider whether or not to pursue regulations for adult use marijuana establishments. Director Waden informed the Board that the Attorney General's Office may allow moratoriums to extend through December 31, 2018, but not beyond this year, and an extension on the moratorium would need to be voted through Town Meeting.

Director Waden reported the Arlington Youth Health and Safety Coalition expressed their support of the Board of Health developing regulations, but Representatives were unavailable to attend tonight's meeting. Director Waden stated there are conflicting recommendations regarding Buffer Zones, MAHP, Cannabis Control Commission, etc. that are being worked out regarding medical and adult use marijuana establishments.

The Board was in unanimous agreement and expressed support to draft regulations to ensure the sanitary and safe operation of marijuana establishments and the sale of marijuana within Arlington.

Discussion: Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Director Waden informed the Board that the Health Department has reviewed Article 15 of the 2018 Town Meeting Warrant which looks to amend Title V, Article 12 of the Town Bylaws as it relates to noise abatement and provided comments to the Board of Selectmen in a memorandum dated February 26, 2017. She read aloud the following Warrant Article to the Board:

ARTICLE 15 BYLAW AMENDMENT/NOISE ABATEMENT

To see if the Town will vote to amend Title V, Article 12 of the Town Bylaws to regulate the permissible hours and volume of noise generated by parties and events on residential private property, by reducing the permissible hours of operation and/or decibel levels of loudspeakers and sound amplifying devices used for entertainment, requiring neighbor notifications for parties on residential private property in which noise amplification will be used, and providing for exemptions for certain well known Town-wide events and/or celebrations periods such as "Porch Fest"; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of Meredith DiMola and ten registered voters)

The Board was in agreement with Director Waden that this Warrant Article, as it relates to the bylaw, is not a Public Health issue that should fall under the jurisdiction of the Health Department.

Arlington Youth Health and Safety Coalition Updates

No updates available, and agenda item will be Tabled to the May 23, 2018 meeting.

Environmental Updates

- Plastic Bag Ban – Inspector Martin informed the Board that the implementation of the plastic bag ban for 10,000 sq ft establishments went well, and all retailers were in compliance upon inspection. Beginning July 1, 2018 all retail establishments in town will need to be in compliance. He reported that at an information session in mid-March, retailers shared concerns, and now the Health Department is working with them to find solutions.
- Housing – Director Waden informed the Board that she spent the morning in Boston Housing Court regarding an on-going hoarding case. She stated she was impressed with the process, the

Magistrate, and expressed her confidence in being able to have access to the Housing Court to resolve housing issues. Inspector Sullivan informed the Board she is working with members of the Attorney General's Abandoned Housing Initiative to put into receivership abandoned properties in Town.

- Nuisance – Director Waden informed the Board that rodent complaints are being received. She was happy to report that Inspector Sullivan attended a Kilsythe Street Neighborhood meeting and was impressed with how neighbors worked together with the Department to make the neighborhood less attractive to rodents, by removing food, water, and harborage sources.

Restaurant Updates

- Retail Food Standards 1 and 3 have been sent to the Auditors for review. Next month the Department will roll out the plan for education and outreach to Establishments in Town.
- No Restaurant Closures to Report
- 2 new establishments have opened at the Local Fare
- Chilly Cow has changed its name to Abilyn's Frozen Bakery

Public Comment

None

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.